Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BAGHDA 01834 311409Z ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 AID-05 /040 W

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R 311110Z AUG 78 FM USINT BAGHDAD TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6694

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BAGHDAD 1834

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELTN, PBOR, IZ, KU, IR

SUBJECT: NON-OPENING OF NEW BRIDGE ACROSS SHATT AL-ARAB

REF: BAGHDAD 1591

- 1. REFTEL REPORTED AUGUST 2 INAUGURATION OF NEW BRIDGE ACROSS THE SHATT AL-ARAB RIVER AT BASRAH. HOWEVER, USINT OFFICER WHO VISITED BASRAH SHORTLY AFTER CEREMONY NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH BRIDGE IS INDEED IN PLACE, APPROACH ROADS HAVE NOT YET BEEN COMPLETED AND IT IS LIKELY TO BE SOME TIME BEFORE TRAFFIC CAN ACTUALLY USE BRIDGE.
- 2. THIS IS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE FACT THAT INAUGURATION CEREMONIES IN IRAQ ARE SCHEDULED WITH GREATER ATTENTION TO THE DESIRE FOR PUBLICITY THAN TO THE ACTUAL COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT. PROJECT INAUGURATIONS CAN AND DO TAKE PLACE ANY TIME BETWEEN THE LAYING OF THE CORNERSTONE AND ACTUAL COMISSIONING.
 PECK

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: TRAVEL REPORTS, HIGHWAYS, BRIDGES (STRUCTURES)

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Subject: NON-OPENING OF NEW BRIDGE ACROSS SHATT AL-ARAB

TAGS: ELTN, PBOR, IZ, KU, IR

To: STATE Type: TE

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Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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